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Stephen Shakman, Esq.
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Dear Steve:

I have your letter of December 3, 1981. I understand that your contract for investigatory work at Well 23 is almost ready for execution. I am sending a copy of your letter and the draft of the proposed contract to Soils Exploration Company, and will ask for comments and a specific date by which we can all expect to receive a proposal.

At the moment, I am perplexed by that portion of the proposed contract (Task III) which covers the investigation and clean up of the sugar beet well. Documents which I think we produced for you indicate that that well was plugged in 1934 by McCarthy Well Company. I understand that plugging consists of filling the hole with concrete. Under those circumstances, it is difficult to see how that well could be a pathway for creosote contamination. Moreover, if it was plugged, a practical problem exists with respect to removing debris and fill from the original depth. I will locate these documents and send them to you promptly.

I am also somewhat concerned about the well abandonment program in view of the lack of data indicating that there is a problem that needs to be cured. I will write you more about this shortly, as well.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Schwartzbauer

EJS:ml

cc: Francis X. Hermann, Esq.
Allen Hinderaker, Esq.

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